

My name is C. Chamberlain. I live in Bloomington, Indiana, and I am the mother of two grade-school-aged children.

Every day I am amazed by the ease with which my children use computers, tablets and smartphones. They have never known a world without them, and they have no fear when it comes to trying new things, whether with a keyboard or a touch screen.

They will need these skills to be successful throughout their lives. And they will need to learn to adapt quickly to new technological leaps. I think every generation is caught by surprise at how quickly technology advances.

That is why I am so concerned about efforts within the Federal Communications Commission to take a giant step backward by reclassifying broadband services as an utility under Title II. These standards were designed for a monopoly world of voice communications, not for the dynamic world in which the Internet and technology operate today.

The fact is that regulatory change cannot keep up with technological advancements. If the FCC classifies broadband as a Title II utility, innovation will evaporate. Providers will not be willing to invest billions of dollars like they have in the recent past in efforts to win in a competitive marketplace. Regulators could be swamped with requests that most likely would be outdated before they are even considered.

Just a few years ago, we used our cell phones to make voice calls, and we were just beginning to use them to send brief text messages. With the introduction of Apple's iPhone, that changed overnight. Suddenly, we could do so much more than talk. We could check for new emails, we could surf the web, and before long we could indulge in an amazing number of apps. A whole new industry was born, and jobs and economic development grew.

Similarly, a website designed initially to connect college students grew into Facebook with millions of users. Those students were surprised to find their parents adapted quickly to the new world, reaching out to former classmates and sharing vacation photos. Facebook wasn't enough, so Instagram, Pinterest and Etsy, among others, followed along.

Amazon's creator thought people would shop online for books, and now millions shop for virtually anything on Amazon as well as untold other sites. The retail and publishing industries have been changed forever.

These are just a few examples. You just never know what invention or innovation is around the corner. And you don't know how users will overnight adopt new habits online. But forcing broadband to adhere to an antiquated regulatory system would stymie such innovation.

I hate to think of the future breakthroughs that we might never experience.

Today, more than 90 percent of individuals – and the vast majority of school districts – across the nation have access to broadband, a great improvement in just a few short years. But were the FCC to reclassifying broadband as a communications service under Title II, the new regulation

would move it toward a more usage-oriented system, ultimately increasing rates for Internet service providers, content providers, schools, and consumers like you and me.

As our nation continues to become more technology dependent, a greater need is placed on the availability of broadband in both Indiana and across the country. My children's education and curriculum is heavily Internet-dependent. Should this regulation be pursued, innovation and investment in broadband would be severely diminished.

Creating restrictions and regulations on broadband will have a detrimental impact on many businesses, school districts, and families. We have come to rely on the progress and innovation that has been made possible by the Title I regulation currently in place.

I want my children to face a wide-open future that won't be hampered by dated and heavy government intervention. It is time for the FCC to re-think this regulation and recognize what damaging consequences will ensue as a result.